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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 01-04

January 9, 2004

Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) Threat Level: ELEVATED (Yellow) Maritime Security Condition: ONE

Following a review of intelligence and an assessment of threats by the intelligence community, the Department of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Homeland Security Council, has made the decision to lower the threat advisory level to an elevated risk of terrorist attack, or "yellow level." Accordingly, the Maritime Security Condition (MARSEC) level in the Port of Jacksonville, Fernandina, and Canaveral has been returned to MARSEC ONE.

The lowering of the threat and MARSEC level is not a signal to government, law enforcement, the port, or citizens that the danger of a terrorist attack is passed. We must be vigilant and alert to the possibility that al-Qaida and those sympathetic to their cause, as well as former Iraqi-regime state agents and affiliated organizations, may attempt to conduct attacks against the U. S. or our interests abroad. For this reason, and for the safety and security of our nation, Americans must continue to be alert, undaunted and prepared to respond to a significant risk of terrorist attacks.

I extend my appreciation to all stakeholders for their patience, resolve, and the level of effort put forth during this period of heightened security. The signal we have sent our enemies over the past few weeks has been clear. We will continue to resolutely defend our Nation and its freedom. Through your collective efforts we send a signal to those who would do us harm that America stands alert, united, and prepared.

D. L. LERSCH Captain, U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port